


Certification Report

Control Union Certification B.V. P.O. Box 161, 8000 AD / Meeuwenlaan 4-6, 8011 BZ ZWOLLE The Netherlands	
Project Name	Vichada Climate Reforestation Project
Project ID Province and Country Project size	CUC2015COVI001 Department: Vichada Department (La Primavera, Puerto Carreño, Cumarribo), Colombia. 76.356 hectares
Project developer	Forest Finest Colombia Carrera 43 A 18 Sur 135 Loca Medellin, Antioquia Colombia represented by Mr. Andres Cadavid
Assessment Team Leader	Mr. J.F. Bastiaanse
Internal Report ID	CUC2015COVI001_V1_FG
Goldstandard Version Type of Certification	0.9 Road test Initial Certification
Date of issuance: Final Report Valid until	Date: 29-08-2016 Date: 28-08-2021
CO2-certificats (ex-ante) from which are ex-post	1.207.411 Tons (based on baseline of the savanna, 5.86 tons CO2 /ha) 325,487 CO2 reductions tons 2006-2015
Buffer CO2-certificats (ex-post & ex-ante)	20%

About the certification body		
Assessment Team Leader	<p>Mr. Jan-Frans Bastiaanse Tel: +31 (0)38 4260100 jfbastiaanse@controlunion.com</p> <p>Short summary on the CV from Mr. Jan-Frans Bastiaanse: Tropical Forestry Engineer with 9 years of worldwide lead auditor experience and 4 years certifier experience with the FSC Forest management program.</p> <p>Signature:</p>	In short JB
Assessment Team Member	<p>Mr. Flavio Guiera Tel: +55 41 92020103 f.guiera@ativaflorestal.com</p> <p>Forest Engineer, Certification consultant for quality and socio-environmental management systems. Qualified IRCA lead auditor. Fifteen years of experience in FSC® Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification in Brazil, Latin America and Southeast Asia. Control Union Certification Lead Auditor since 2009. Specialist in risk assessments and sustainability in forest products supply chain. Worked for forest companies in the private sector, NGO's and governmental bodies.</p> <p>Signature:</p>	In short FG
Assessment Team Member	<p>Mr. Luis Otero Tel: Tel: 56 9 90415448 oteluis@gmail.com</p> <p>Short summary on the CV from Mr. Luis Otero</p> <p>Forest Engineer. Seventeen year experience as FSC Chile advisor and lead auditor in forest certification. Extensive experience in forestry carbon sequestration in Chile, Brazil, Colombia, Argentina and Venezuela. Long experience as researcher at the Universidad Austral de Chile in environmental impact assessment in forestry plantations in several countries in Latin America . Particular experience in forest landscape planning and forestry outreach.</p> <p>Signature:</p>	In short LO

History of this document	
1. Draft sent to project developer	18-09-2015
1. Feedback	CAR closure
2. Draft sent to project developer	23-12-2015
2. Feedback	06-05-2016
3. Draft sent to GS	30-08-2106
3. Feedback (all GS and CU CARs are closed)	25-10-2016
Date of issuance: Final Report	25-10-2016

1. INTRODUCTION

Objective
Validation and verification on conformance with the Gold Standard A/R of Project in the Vichada department in East Colombia.
Scope
<p>The project aims at initial certification according to the A/R Gold Standard scope. The project area encompasses 76.356 hectares, with a planting area of 13,205 hectares, and a conservation area of 8,089 hectares, whereby reforestation is the core activity. First plots were planted back in 2006 and since then numerous management units were added.</p> <p>Gold Standard has already reviewed the first project report allowing the PDD to be issued and to be presented to Control Union.</p> <p>The Gold standard Version 0.9 (Road test), August 2013.</p>
Level of assurance
The verification was carried out in order to provide a reasonable level of assurance of conformance against the defined Gold standard requirements and materiality thresholds within the audit scope. Based on the findings of this verification, a positive statement assures that the project's GHG assertion is materially correct and fairly represents the GHG data and information.
Materiality
Unless otherwise stated by the Gold Standard requirements all GHG sinks, sources and/or reservoirs (SSR's) and GHG emissions are equal to or greater than 5% of the total GHG assertion.
Project description
Represented by Forest Finest Colombia, Forest Finance is part of the implementation and forest management of a carbon reforestation project with the aim of contributing to the mitigation of climate change. The project is located in the Orinoquia region, Colombia. In the project management plan, different tree species in marginal,

non-forest areas are planted. Reforestation will increase biomass of the planting areas and sequester carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is one of the main Greenhouse Gases (GHG); and according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), one of the responsible gases causing global warming.

On the first half of 2015 the carbon project group, working under the same umbrella with other three reforestation companies, completed the Gold Standard (GS) pre validation process and is since then listed as an official carbon forestry project. During the pre-validation process not only technical experts from GS reviewed the project documentation, but also more than 80 NGOs supporters including WWF and Greenpeace received an electronic notification and were invited to provide comments of the new applicant project. The project has in total more than 70,000 hectares, from those 13,000 are planted and 8,000 under protection. It is estimated that the project will generate more than 1,5 million tCO₂ in a 30 years crediting period. It will be the first GS project under the LUF scope to achieve certification in Colombia.

2. METHODOLOGY

The project approach consists of the following steps:

Performance certification based on the delivered PDD and supporting documentation

- Desk Review
- Site Visit
- Validation-Verifications assessment

Desk review

During the assessment Control Union will review the following elements of the project and verify against the Gold Standard A/R Requirements based on information provided by Forest Finest:

- Key project information, Project Design Document (PDD);
- Verification of the prefeasibility study;
- Shape files of the project (verification based on existing satellite images);
- Verification of the Do-No-Harm Assessment;
- Verification of the project Sustainability Requirements;
- Verification of the Additionality Requirements; and
- Verification of the Methodology requirements (including Conversion procedure and calculation of the CO₂-certificates).

Deliverables: Deliverable 1

- General overview of the project
- Verified Shape files ready to upload on the Gold Standard Registry account.
- Overview of verification points on the Sustainability requirements for the Site visit.

Site visit:

During the site visit the following elements will be verified based on a further to determine sampling:

- Field verification of the general overview of the project;
- Field verification of the Shape files;
- Field verification of the Do-No-Harm-Assessment;
- Field verification on the implementation of the Local Stakeholder Consultation, including the Sustainable Development Assessment;
- Field verification on the implementation of the Input & Grievance Mechanism;
- Field verification on the implementation of the Sustainability Monitoring Plan;
- Field verification of the legal rights;
- Field verification on the Risk Register; and
- Field verification of the inventory method and data on which the CO₂-certificates calculation is based.

Deliverables: Deliverable 2

- Audit planning
- Report, including CARs, FARs and OBSs if any.

Desk review

- Communication of project findings: CARs and NCRs
- Satisfactory response and actions regarding CARs and NCRs

Deliverables: Deliverable 3

Notification that all CARs and NCRs are closed

Validation Report – Deliverable 4

3. CONCLUSION

The forest management system, procedures, and techniques of Vichada Climate Reforestation Project have been assessed by CUC according to the standards THE GOLD STANDARD – A/R (V0.9).

In the opinion of the lead auditor, Flavio Guiera, Vichada Climate Reforestation Project is in conformity with the Initial Certification requirements and certificate should be issued provided that correspondent CAR's are closed.

4. SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

A non-conformance is defined as a deficiency, discrepancy or misrepresentation that in all probability materially affects carbon credit claims.

Corrective Action Request (CAR) – With a CAR, Control Union Certifications or The Gold Standard Secretariat requests appropriate action be taken to show compliance with a requirement. In order to achieve a successful certification, all CARs shall be formally closed.

CARs can be converted to FARs.

Forward Action Request (FAR) - With a FAR, Control Union Certifications or The Gold Standard Secretariat requests appropriate action be taken to become fully compliant with a requirement. A FAR will be issued where the impact of the infraction is

(a) not material within the current certification, AND

(b) unusual or non-systematic, AND

(c) correctable in a specific timeframe less than 5 years.

Observation (OBS) – With an OBS, Control Union Certifications or The Gold Standard Secretariat provides an observation on possible future non-compliance with a requirement.

Unlike CARs and FARs, observations are warnings and do not need to be formally corrected. They are given special attention during the next certification.

For detailed findings please refer to Annex 1

Overview of OBS/FAR/CAR					
Number	Date found	Reference	Status	Remarks	Date closed
GS-OBS-01	16.06.2015	Template 3.5 Terms and Conditions	Closed		30.10.2015
CUC-FAR-01	15.08.2015	3.1.15 Social, Occupational Health & Safety	Closed		30.10.2015
CUC-FAR-02	15.08.2015	3.1.18, Social	Closed		30.10.2015
CUC-OBS-01	15.08.2015	3.1.20, Environmental	Open		
CUC-CAR-01	20-07-2015	Key project information section c	Closed		15.08.2015
CUC-OBS-02	15.08.2015	3.1.21, environmental	Open		
CUC-FAR-03	15.08.2015	3.1.24, environmental	Open		
CUC-FAR-04	15.08.2015	3.1.25, environmental	Open		
GS-OBS-03	16.06.2015	3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 25	Closed		15.08.2015
GS-CAR-06 replaced by CUC-FAR-05	16.06.2015 / 15.08.2015	3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 27, Fertilizer use.	Closed		
CUC-CAR-02	15.08.2015	3.1.29, Environmental, chemical pesticides.	Closed		30.10.2015
CUC-FAR-06	15.08.2015	3.1.31, Chemical pesticides	Closed		30.10.2015
GS-CAR-08 (Present status OBS)	16.06.2015	3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 36, water level.	Open	Changed to OBS 09.07.2015	

CUC-FAR-07	15.08.2015	3.2.5 Public consultation meeting	Closed		30.10.2015	
GS-CAR-09 (Present status OBS)	16.06.2015	3.2 Local Stakeholder, page 1	Open	(changed to OBS, July 3, 2015) remains OBS after field visit.		
GS-CAR-10	16.06.2015	3.2 Local Stakeholder Template, page 1, Invitation tracking table	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 9, 2015	15-08-2015	
GS-OBS-04	16.06.2015	3.2 Local Stakeholder Soncultation, page 2, Participants list	Closed		15.08.2015	
GS-OBS-05	16.06.2015	3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation, page 2, Description of other consultation methods used	Closed		15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-14	16.06.2015	3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation page 6	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-15	16.06.2015	3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation, page 8, Blind exercise and relevant supporting document	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-16	16.06.2015	3.4 Sustainability Monitoring Plan	Closed		15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-17	16.06.2015	3.6 Risk Register, Risk of pest and disease attacks	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-18	16.06.2015	3.6 Risk Register, Exploitation of underground resources	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 7, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-19	16.06.2015	3.6 Risk Register, Financial means	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-21	16.06.2015	4.1 Additionality, page 1	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	20.08.2015	
GS-OBS-08	16.06.2015	4.1 Additionality, page 2, no deforestation	Closed		15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-22	16.06.2015	4.1 A/R CDM Additionality tool, page 10	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 9, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-23	16.06.2015	5.1 Applicability, page 1, paragraphs 1 and 2.	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3,	15.08.2015	

		Satellite images		2015		
GS-CAR-24	16.06.2015	5.1 Applicability, page 1, paragraph 3. Land preparation.	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-25	16.06.2015	5.1 Applicability, page 1, paragraph 4, Baseline assessment;	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015	15.08.2015	
CUC-FAR-08	15.08.2015	5.2.1 & 5.2.2, Conversion factor / Conservative approach.	Open			
CUC-FAR-10 (originally CUC-CAR-03)	15.08.2015	5.4.1 Site preparation	Open	Changed to CUC-FAR-010, December 9, 2015		
GS-OBS-10	16.06.2015	5.5 Baseline, page 1, paragraphe 1a)	Closed		15.08.2015	
GS-CAR-26	16.06.2015	5.6 Leakage, Lit. d)	Closed		15.08.2015	
GS-OBS-11	16.06.2015	5.7 CO2-Fixation	Open			
GS-CAR-27 Replaced by CUC-FAR-09	16.06.2015	5.7 CO2-Fixation	Closed	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015. Changed to FAR 15.08.2015.	30.10.2015	
GS-CAR-28	16.06.2015	5.7 CO2-Fixation	Open	Changed to OBS, July 3, 2015		
GS-OBS-12	16.06.2015	5.6 All documents. Spelling and grammar	Closed		30.10.2015	
GS-OBS-13	16.06.2015	5.6 All documents, description of relevance.	Closed		15.08.2015	

5. REVIEWED DOCUMENTS

The project provided the following documents for revision prior to the field verification.

Project Design Document assessment	
Documents	
PAZ15-FIX1-Vichada-Carbon Model4	
PAZ15-FIX1-Vichada-Carbon Model 555	
PAZ15-FIX3-Baseline	
PAZ15-FIX4-Historial uso de tierra	
PAZ15-FIX5-Fertilzantes	
PAZ15-FIX6-AR-Soil-Carbon-Tool_final	
PAZ15-FIX7-Bocashi	
PAZ15-ADD2-Retroactive approach letter	
PAZ15-APP1-Sabana Colombia	
PAZ15-DNH2-Principios OIT	
PAZ15-DNH3-Anticorruption letter	
PAZ15-DNH4-Manejo residuos Vichada -v1	
PAZ15-DNH5-numero de seguro social	
PAZ15-DNH6-Capacitaciones	
PAZ15-DNH7-Políticas empresarial	
PAZ15-DNH8-donacion Ejercito Nacional	
PAZ15-DNH9-acuerdo comunidades AGAF	
PAZ15-DNH10-OHSAS Responsible	
PAZ15-DNH11-Principios OIT	
PAZ15-LEG1-Authorization letter and TOR	
PAZ15-LEG2-Reglamento interno	
PAZ15-LEG3-Register Commerce chamber	
PAZ15-LSC1-FOFI Good hands	

PAZ15-LSC2-Blind Matrix results
PAZ15-MAP1-Land SAT
PAZ15-SFM1-Plan Manejo sustentable
PAZ15-SFM2-Team ForestFinest Colombia
PAZ15-SFM3-Control especies sembradas
PAZ15-SFM4-Donaciones Escuela

Supporting documents assessment during the field verification

ID	Date of publication	Title	Place, Author
	01/06/2015	Mapa Plantacion Aldea Forestal S.A	Aldea Forestal SA
	12/2014	Diagrama Plantación	Aldea Forestal SA
	Jan-dec/2015	Cronograma 2015 (Actividades/Tareas)	Aldea Forestal SA
PSP001	11/03/2015	Formulario de medición de arboles en pié – F01; F09	Reforestadora La Paz
000063	13/01/2015	Resolución otorga ALFOREST S.A productor semillas P, caribea; E. pellita.	ICA- Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario
800.41.15.009	08/05/2015	Resolucion de otorga de permisos ambientales y autorizacion de aprovechamiento forestal. - Certificado de Disposición Filtros de aire y combustible - Ceritificado de disposición de hierros y partes de maquinaria - Certificado de disposicion de solidos contaminados con fertilizantes - Informe de operaciones	La Dirección Territorial de la Corporación Autonoma Regional de Orinoquia - Corporinoquia – Subsede La Primavera.
	2015	Plan Nutricional, plantaciones de pino 2015	Aldea Forestal
	2014	Evaluación temprana del crecimiento del E. pellita como respuesta a diferentes dosis de calcareo, fosforo y potasio en 3 sitios de la orinoquia colombiana.	CONIF – Corporación Nacional de Investigación y Fomento Forestal / Aldea Forestal S.A
	2013	Informe del establecimiento del ensayo de especies del Genero Eucalyptus en la finca La Aldea, Primavera (Vichada)	CONIF – Corporación Nacional de Investigación y Fomento Forestal / Aldea Forestal S.A
	04/2015	Encuestas a Stakeholders (Personal Survey)	Forestadora La Paz.
	24/02/2015	Mapa Predio Los Santos	Inverbosques
	10/12/2014	Mapa Predio La Fortuna	Inverbosques
	18/02/2015	Mapa Predio La Ilusion II	Inverbosques
	07/05/2015	Mapa Predio Las Bonitas	Inverbosques
	12/2013	Planta General La Paz	Reforestadora La Paz

	11/08/2015	Resumen de areas plantadas / especies	Reforestadora La Paz
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6. INTINERARY OF THE FIELD VISIT

Assessment during field-visit			
Date	Location	Time spend	Auditor
11-08-2015	Bogotá – offices	6:00 h	FG / LO
Document verification; methodology understanding and check.			
12-08-2015	Bogotá – offices	4:00h	FG / LO
Document verification; Sustainability checking; FMP evaluation .			
12-08-2015	Puerto Carreño (La Paz)	3:00h	FG / LO
Opening Meeting with forest managers from La Paz, Inverbosques, Aldea Forestal and Forest Finance; updating of project status; planning field evaluation.			
13-08-2015	Puerto Carreño (La Paz)	8:00 h	FG
Field evaluation; interviews with staff.			
13-08-2015	Puerto Carreño (Inverbosques)	8:00 h	LO
Field evaluation; interviews with staff.			
14-08-2015	Primavera (La Aldea)	8:00 h	FG / LO
Fly-over farms, transfer to Primavera and Interview with managers of La Aldea Forestal S.A.			
15-08-2015	Primavera (La Aldea)	3:00 h	FG / LO
Field evaluation; interviews with staff (La Aldea Forestal).			
16-08-2015	Bogotá – offices	2:00 h	FG / LO
Closing meeting (La Aldea Offices)			

7. INTERVIEWS DURING THE FIELD VISIT

Assessment during interviews			
Date	Person	Time spent	Auditor
Aug 10, 2015	Marco Guerrero – Forest Finance Project Developer	6 hours	FG / LO
Aug 11, 2015	Maria Margarita Romero – La Adea Forestal S.A – Quality control Luisa Azabache – Forestadora La Paz – Manejo técnico Elkin Rodriguez – La Aldea Forestal SA – Director Alejandro Madrigal – Phytopatologist Marco Guerrero – Forest Finance Project Developer Federico Cordoba Jaramillo – Forestadora La Paz SA – Executive Director Roman Jaramillo Acevedo – Reforestadora La Paz – Implementation Gilbert Parra – Inverbosques – Gerente Tecnico Gustavo Rios – Silvotecnica (Inverbosques’ Advisor) – Forest manager.	2 hours	FG/ LO
Aug 12, 2015	Gilbert Parra, Gustavo Rios, Elkin Rodriguez, Marco Guerrero	10 horas	LO
Aug 12,2015	Maria Margarita Romero, Luisa Azabache, Federico Cordoba Jaramillo	10 horas	FG
Aug 12, 2015	Empleados Reforestadora La Paz: Luis anzueta – operador de maquinaria Orlando Coque – operador forestall Omar Vanegas – operador forestall Carlos Guio – operador forestall Giovani Restrepo – operador forestall	01 hora	FG
Aug 13, 2015	Maria Margarita Romero, Marco Guerrero, Elkin Rodriguez	10 horas	FG / LO
Aug 14, 2015	Maria Margarita Romero, Marco Guerrero, Elkin Rodriguez	04 horas	FG / LO

ANNEX 1 FAR'S AND CAR'S OVERVIEW

Resolution of Corrective Actions Requests (CARs)

GS: Goldstandard comments
 PD: Project developer comments
 CU: CU comments

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 01	Reference : Template 3.5 Terms and Conditions	Category: OBS
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Terms and Conditions required		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Template 3.5 Terms and Conditions was not provided for review.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: The templates: Cover Letter and Terms and Conditions were inside the subfolder "Sign only". To avoid confusion all subfolders for Templates and Supporting Documentation were delete. GS: Effective date on page 1 needs to be added. Auditor to check. PD: Document 3.5 Terms and conditions was duly signed by the endorsed responsible person to control and manage the certification process, and regarding document "Authorization Letter 19th feb, 2015". CU: See template 3.5 terms and conditions, page 2 (19 February 2015)		
Status: Closed October 30 th 2015		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR 01	Reference : 3.1.15 Social, Occupational Health & Safety	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: 5 years from closing meeting	
Description of indicator: There shall be a 'Health & Safety Policy' that is documented, implemented and regularly updated. This policy shall include at a minimum: (a) provisions for first aid, AND (b) provisions for the safe transport of <u>workers</u> , AND (c) provisions for timely evacuation of <u>workers</u> to an adequately equipped medical facility in case of serious accident, AND (d) a health insurance scheme for <u>workers</u> who are impacted by workplace accidents AND if <u>workers</u> stay in camps for a longer period of time, measures shall to provided to ensure that conditions for accommodation and nutrition comply at least with those specified in the <i>ILO Code of Practice on Safety & Health in Forestry</i> ¹ .		
Description of non-conformity: CU: It was observed deficiencies in the kitchen of La Aldea's camp surrounding cleaning, equipment and food storage.		

¹ ILO Safety & Health in Forestry [Link](#) - criteria 226 to 229

Furthermore, a minimum standard of facilities and accommodation should be established by the project manager focused on to diminish the differences between environmental, health and safety conditions between companies.

La Aldea Forestal counts with an excellent wastewater treatment plan while La Paz provides outstanding camping conditions. Those conditions/technologies should be exchanged between them taking the chance to gather the best skill of each company in harmonization for one single general standard.

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:

PD: The plan of the companies that are part of the consortium is to share all relevant information to improve the project and reach the same quality level in every aspect of the standard.

As a harmonization process the project agree to create some term and conditions and principle and criteria that will be respected to integrate and harmonize all the processes (PAZ15-LEG4)

For detail also see document PAZ15-LEG4, page 4, point 2.6- were all companies have the compromise to have the camps respecting health conditions of the employees. Further in point 2.5 it is possible to see that there is a person that will have a role of supervising, monitoring and keeping best practice in the camps.

See also PAZ15-DNH13, were all 3 companies provide a manual with all norms to maintain the safety and health of the camps.

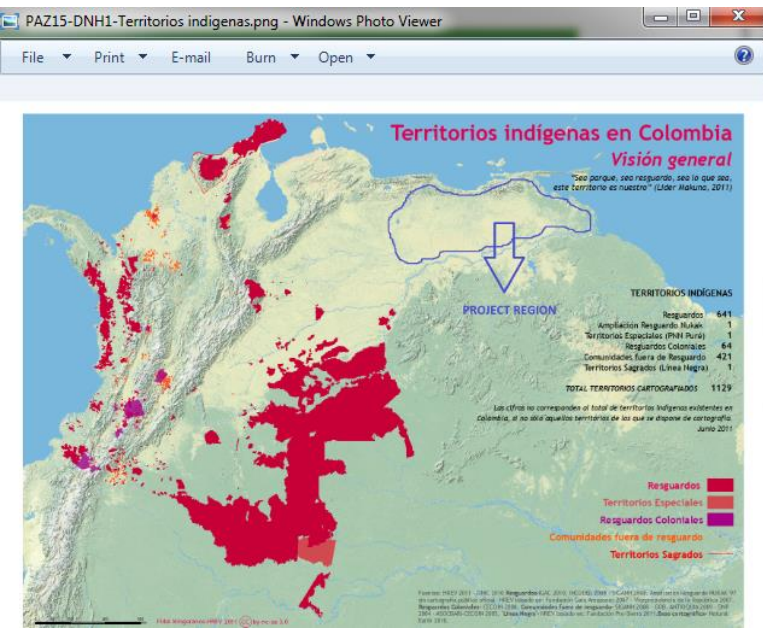
CU: With this new manual it is now clear that all 3 companies in the consortium have common documents and procedures. The implementation of these procedures shall be monitored closely.

Status: Closed October 30th 2015

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR 02	Reference : 3.1.18, Social	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: 5 years from closing meeting	
Description of indicator: Workers shall have safe protective equipment, tools and machinery appropriate for their work.		
Description of non-conformity:		
CU: It was detected a tractor's operator working without personal protection equipment for to avoid damages regarding excessive noise from engines. As interviewed he stated had not received any equipment for this purpose aside boots and uniform.		
Further roles, such as chemical application, chainsaw operators are provided with basics protective equipment. A deeper risk analysis shall be implemented by function developed to cover all kind of biological, environmental and physical risk for the safety and health of the labours.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		
PD: See document PAZ15-SFM5 to SFM9, were all information regarding capacity building to employees for the correct management of equipment, instructions for specific work activities, steps to follow in emergency cases due to fires, use of equipment for personal protection is provided.		
See document PAZ15-SFM9, page 9 and 10 to see the correct procedure regarding noise of tractors.		
Capacity building is planed every year and corrective actions to prevent that employees have the knowledge to follow the safety procedures in their working positions. See as example PAZ 15-SFM8		
Further see document PAZ15-SFM12, a risk analysis was performed for the project in 2015.		
CU: After the field visit, the project developer implemented new procedures as mentioned above and provided training to its employees of which evidence is provided. Effectivity shall be monitored closely.		
Status: Closed October 30 th 2015		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-OBS 01	Reference : 3.1.20, Environmental	Category: Obs
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Exotic tree species shall not be used, unless direct experience, or scientific research, demonstrate that there is, or can be, no invasiveness and no adverse impacts.		
Description of non-conformity:		
CU: The Project should establish sample plots or growth experiments with native species such as saladillo,		

alcornoque or quercus, etc.
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Observation will be taken into account during the planning and establishment of new PPM (Forest Inventory)
Status: Open

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-CAR-01	Reference : Key project information section c	Category: CAR
Date found: 20-07-15	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Communities involved.		
Description of non-conformity: PAZ15-DNH1-Territorios Indigenas.png. The map contains a reference to the project region (with an arrow), but this seems to be incorrect as it is now located in Venezuela.		
		

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: CU: Stakeholders consultation and field visit did not detected the presence or indigenous territories overlapping or surrounding areas in the scope of Vichada Carbon Forest Project. The map with the overview of indigenous territories or traditional communities is available and ratifies the field observation that Project areas' are not even in the buffer zones or causing influences with their activities to indigenous lands.		
Status: Closed Aug 15, 2015		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-OBS 02	Reference : 3.1.21	Category: Obs
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Flora and Fauna		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Through a smart mosaic of the <u>planting areas</u> , buffer zones and infrastructure habitat connectivity for flora and fauna should be enhanced.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: CU: Plantations are distributed in large units or homogeneous plots regarding species and ages, which increase the risk of fire and plagues, furthermore affecting landscapes. At the future, companies should design more mosaics to input a better diversity of environments and plots.		

PD: Currently the project is planting 5 types of tree species. However the project has also sampling fields with other tree species. If the species selected are able to adapt to the region, they will be planted also for commercial purposes. A wider variety of species part of the project, will allowed also the project to reduce the plot area planted with one tree species and reduce the risks mentioned by the auditor.

Further, the project has a plan to prevent and control fire (PAZ15-SFM1, page 46). One preventive action are fire brakes: every 12 hectares there are roads of 20 meters and fire breaks of 40 meters close to conservation areas of other of relevance (PAZ15-SFM1, page 40)

Against Plagues, a phytosanitary plan is in place with focus in biological methods to reduce the chemicals that can be used(PAZ15-SFM1, page 42-43)

Status: Open

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR-03	Reference : 3.1.24, environmental	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: 5 years from closing meeting	
Description of indicator:		
24. (a) Existing patches of trees or single solitary stems of <i>native tree species</i> , AND (b) habitats of <i>endangered species</i> shall always be <i>identified</i> and <i>managed</i> to protect or enhance the <i>biological diversity</i>		
Description of non-conformity:		
CU: In the event of new plantations the Project shall maintain all remaining natural trees into the plantations sites and expressive densities shall be located in the site maps, with the ends of biodiversity conservation.		
There is a lack of signs or folders that can promote education for the conservation of fauna and flora or other biodiversity elements in the camps of La Aldea and Inverbosques. No fauna observation records are found. The Project should develop measures to enhance the environmental consciousness of the staff, as well as observation of the eventual changes in the local fauna.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		
PD: Native disperse trees remain untouched in the field. An inventory of the remaining trees will be establish as monitoring strategy.		
See PAZ15-DNH14 with some pictures how vegetation is respected.		
The management plan (PAZ15-SFM1), which is also available to all employees, contains different aspects regarding flora and fauna commitment and monitoring (see pages 101 to 113) of the project, so as a reporting system (see page 192-SMB1 Seguimiento da la Flora Endemica and page 195-SMS2 Seguimiento del area plantada sobre el area de conservación).		
PAZ15-SM10 page 1 and 2 - presents some updated actions done to improve this topic.		
PAZ15-SFM9-page 2 shows the corrective action- posters were included as information for employees. Also page 9-11 shows pictures and a list of the capacity building to the operators of the tractors and pesticides.		
CU: The habitats are identified and the companies implemented		
Status: Open		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR 04	Reference : 3.1.25, environmental	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: 5 years from closing meeting	
Description of indicator:		
To ensure healthy soils the following aspects shall be identified and appropriate measures shall be put in place to protect them: (a) soil types, AND (b) biota, AND (c) erosion, AND (d) compaction.		
Description of non-conformity:		
CU: The compacted and poor soils as a baseline situation turn the soil management one of the biggest		

challenges for the establishment of a forestation project in the Colombian savannah. The use of fire to land preparation is not described in the Forest Management Plan, though this practice was detected in the field and justified by the Managers as necessary when there are considerable difficulties to the machinery for work. Therefore, there are no rules or parameters for when this practice is acceptable. Other practice that is not in accordance with minimal cultivation concept is the full ploughing area (seen at La Paz). Land preparation in La Aldea showed better practices with similar results, although the statement of the eventual use of fire was also found, but without established parameters for the use too. The harmonization of site preparation technics shall be implemented, as well as parameterizations to guide the use of fire or to extinguish this practice.

Although fertility tests have been made with different types of soils the Project did not present a map of soils that allow to better evaluate or estimate the forest growth in the several soils conditions and types (arenosos, suelos de ripios, bancos de sabana, serranias, etc).

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:

PD: After initial soil preparation it is planned a sustainable soil management to increase organic soil formation and decrease the existence of poor compacted soils in the region. See Paz15-DNH14, pictures 7,8,9

Fire prevention is not a common practice, but might be use in limited cases such as:

In case of mechanical activities: Difficulties to use specific machinery

In case of manual activities: Risk of the employees and operators

See PAZ15-SFM1, page 165, Ficha 18- Preparación de suelo con fuego controlado

Please see the description of the machinery used during ploughing activities for soil preparation. The project invested in high technology machinery to reduce the impact of using this methodology (PAZ15-SFM1-page 39, point 7.5, Manejo del suelo y preparación del terreno)

A harmonization of management practices is part of the agenda and will improve during the coming years due to know how transfer between the companies involved in the project. The main rules are already in place. See the TOR and Policies in PAZ15-LEG4 and also the Sustainable Management Plan for the project. PAZ-SFM1

The soil sampling test and the implementation of other PPMs will allowed the project to elaborate a soil map and keep a monitoring system of the increase of organic soils.

CU:

Status: Open

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 03	Reference : 3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 25	Category: Obs
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: 3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 25		
Description of non-conformity:		
<p>GS: Erosion control is planned in the respective supporting document but no evidence of implementation activities is provided. Auditor to control respective measures in the field. Point b) mentions to protect biomass growing under the trees. However Eucalyptus leaves on the soil can prevent biomass from growing.</p> <p>PD: Clarification will be provided to the auditor.</p>		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		
<p>CU": Erosion is prevented during the soil preparation when deserved, such as plantation in level in the "serranías" zones. Flatlands are predominant in the Vichada Project areas, which minimizes significant erosion processes.</p> <p>Remaining significant biomass, such as small trees and bushes are maintained growing under the trees in most of cases. It was detected that eucalyptus leaves on the soil are quickly incorporated to soil turning it into natural fertilizer and what has increased the growth of biomass due to the forestry environment created by plantations. Furthermore, Acacia has demonstrated a low increment of shrub for the difficulty of mineralization of leaves. For these plots, the remaining vegetation, such as bushes and trees are often conserved.</p>		
Status: Closed 15-08-2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 06 Replaced by CUC-FAR 05	Reference: 3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 27	Category: FAR
Date found:	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Fertilizer use.		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Fertilizer of 0.5-3 kg per plant and year is not considered minimal. Auditor please check.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Clarification: One paragraph before states that there will be first an experiment to determinate the exact doses to use of fertilizer. This is done usually during the first years, not during all the crediting period. Further the doses will not be applied to all trees. There will be a selection (economical and environmental reasons) En los primeros años de cultivo se instala un experimento de fertilización en un diseño de bloques al azar, con nueve tratamientos, una repetición, con unidades experimentales de mínimo 20 plántulas, que se conducirá durante todo el período vegetativo del cultivo con el objetivo de determinar las dosis óptimas de fertilizantes a utilizar por plántula por año, para lograr los más altos rendimientos del cultivo. El proyecto procura utilizar los fertilizantes de menor impacto a los ecosistemas naturales (PAZ15-SFM1, point 7.6)”. GS: As this is a retrospective project (starting date is 2006 and some trees are already 9 years old) experiments should already be done and results concerning fertilizer distribute available. Auditor to check fertilizer records and what is really implemented in the field. CU: Inverbosques makes a very intensive use of fertilizers, exceeding the prescribed 495 gr/tree, which can influence directly in the leakage and carbon calculation. PD: An additional 15% was added to the nitrogen value to compensate the amount of fertilizer use by Inverbosques. This value was included to all MUs, although in Aldea and La Paz is lower. See PAZ15-Fix1, Values and Factors (cell C23) CU: The additional 15% as added to the nitrogen value is assessed as a sufficient compensation for the leakage. Furthermore, taking into account the clarification of ID 001 published on http://www.goldstandard.org/articles/ar-clarification-requests , the requirement on accounting for nitrogen fertilizer emissions to the project emissions has been removed.		
Status: Closed 18/09/2015		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-CAR 02	Reference : 3.1.29, Environmental	Category: Car
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Chemical pesticides shall be avoided, or their use shall be minimised and justified.		
Description of non-conformity: CU: There is a big difference between practices used by each of the companies part of the Project regarding the application of hazardous chemicals pesticides. Aldea Forestal does not use herbicides, applying just mechanical control. Though Inverbosques makes up to 4 applications of herbicides (glyphosate) during the cycle. A pesticide policy shall be implemented to harmonize practices between parties of the Project. (See GS-FAR-05, bellow)		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: See document PAZ15-LEG4, page 4, point 2.6- the project will follow the FSC principle to reduce the use of pesticides and when it is necessary they will use pesticides that cause the less impact and will be use in minimum proportions. CU: Only FSC approved chemical pesticides will be used as stated in the PAZ15-LEG4 document which is signed by all companies in the consortium. Implementation shall be closely monitored.		
Status: Closed October 30 th 2015		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR 06	Reference : 3.1.31	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/15	Deadline for correction: 5 years from closing meeting	
Description of indicator: There shall be a 'Chemical Pesticides Policy' that is documented, implemented and regularly updated. This policy shall include at a minimum: (a) provisions for safe transport, storage, handling and application, AND (b) provisions for emergency situations.		
Description of non-conformity: CU: Although there is no evidence of contamination or register of accidents, the chemicals storage sites are not completely closed in a way to avoid the entrance of fauna and to protect products from the exposure to the weather. Also the absence of contingency drains for a case of leakage or further accidents is felt. There is not a formal corporate policy that explicitly describes the constraints and thresholds to chemical pesticides utilization.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: The formal corporate policy : See document PAZ15-LEG4, page 4, point 2.6- the project follows the FSC principle to reduce the use of pesticides and when it is necessary uses pesticides that cause the less impact and in minimum proportions. For accidents see the risk analysis PAZ15-SFM12 Further see as complement document PAZ15-SFM13, with the detailed policies and procedures to handle pesticides. Corrective action: Chemicals and fuel are store safely (see PAZ15-DNH14, page 5, picture 10) CU: updated procedures seen under PAZ15-SFM13 and policy under PAZ15-LEG4. Also evidence of training and upgraded chemical pesticides storage present. Implementation shall be closely monitored.		
Status: Closed October 30 th 2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 08	Reference : 3.1 Do No Harm Assessment, section 36	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 9, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Ground water level		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Please demonstrate that water demanding Eucalyptus and Acacia Mangium trees do not negatively affect the ground water level. PD: This topic has been classified as: relevant with a medium risk. Therefore included inside the SMP Template (page 4,5)as a mitigation strategy. A monitoring system is under development to cover this topic. Some sampling information was already done that can be use as baseline scenario. See PAZ15-SMP1, page 49, 50, table # VII-7 and 8 GS: With the project underway since 2006, a monitoring system should have been implemented for species known for water consumption. Auditor to check adequacy of monitoring and <i>implementation</i> of mitigation measures. PD: Take into account that this is a retroactive project and we are at initial certification CU: Plantations are built composing a mosaic of species and ages that can avoid the impacts of water consumption and losses of water quality due to clear cut or harvesting operations. The water is abundant during the winter and no water deficit during the dry season is reported by stakeholders. 15-08-2015 Additional findings by the auditor raised as observation: Project developer should present a program of water		

monitoring into the plantations to follow the water dynamic and investigate potential impacts of forestation in riparian zones of Colombian Savannah (Ilanos), once there are already climatological data collected for the region.

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:

PD: See the data collected from the project water station (PAZ15-SFM15-Water monitoring)

The data of PAZ15-SFM15 can be compared with data of the closest climatological station in Vichada from IDEAM (PAZ15-SFM14) to have a first overview of the amount of precipitations per month (mms).

Underground water level are directly influence due to percolation, therefore it is possible to determinate the reduce impact to groundwater levels, due to planting and roots absorption. The project plans in the next 2 years to include a more robust water monitoring system inside the PPM's.

CU: No robust monitoring system implemented yet. The observation remains open..

Status: Open

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR-07	Reference : 3.2.5 Public consultation meeting	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: The LSC shall include at least one public in-person meeting, which shall be open to anyone willing to attend and which shall be conducted in accordance with the guidelines provided in this document.		
Description of non-conformity: CU: Although the meeting organized in Puerto Carreño by the project managers has comprised relevant local stakeholders which are representatives for Departamento de Vichada, it should be extended for the communities like Primavera the is more related with La Aldea.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: La Primavera is now included. See survey in La Primavera (Folder PAZ15-LSC3-Encuestas Primavera).		
CU: Stakeholder consultation is now extended to a larger area. Effectiveness will be verified during next performance verification		
Status: Closed October 30 th 2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 09	Reference : 3.2 Local Stakeholder, page 1	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015) remains OBS after field visit.
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Local stakeholder meeting		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Specific date (it only says May 2015) of meeting is missing in template.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: During May 2015, The projects also manage parallel a digital survey to be able to receive the information of other important stakeholders. English: https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/78GBHJ5 and Spanish: https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/98BD5N2		
GS: Only 1 photo is provided (respectively two of the same person in the supporting document) neither additional photos nor digital records of meeting were provided. PD: More photos were added to annex2. Surveys can be shown to the auditor upon request.		
GS: Minutes are not provided (supporting document is a project description and not minutes and on page 4 again rather a project description than minutes are provided). Provide minutes and more photos showing participants and process of the meeting.		

PD: PAZ15-LSC2 includes a new section: point 9. Minutes consultation and more photos (see annex2)

GS: Point 1: The links only show empty input forms for feedback. Did no local stakeholder meeting take place? If yes provide specific date of local meeting and range for subsequent web form feedback.

PD: Original documentation will be presented to the auditor

GS: Point 2: no further comments. Auditor to check surveys samples.

GS: Point 3: Minutes are not remarks/comments. Meeting minutes is a document showing the process and structure of the meeting including results, recommendations, and feedback. Please provide meeting minutes and not only comments.

CU: All the steps of LSC guidelines were successfully completed. Companies involved in the project are known in the region and actively participate in the several regional forestry forum. Companies are recognized by local stakeholders for the legal compliance, good management practices, investigation involvement and the provision of support for the environmental activism of NGO's such as WWF.

15-08-2015

Additional findings by the auditor raised as observation: Company should make efforts to establish an harmonized system of minutes meeting between tree companies, where the events attended or promoted by companies' parties would be reported and recorded accordingly to comprise the follow up and refinement of the SLC results, known that many issues concerning the project are tackled during every meeting, interview or consultation with stakeholders.

PD: Observation taking into account. To integrate better the consortium the first information was already sent to the 3 companies. Further all the information managed during PDD writing is being harmonize and will be canalized to all the companies, to help the improvement of all the project members in the coming years.

PAZ15-LEG4: See the TOR and also policies and principles that will be use as consortium to harmonize the processes used. PAZ15-LEG4

The project manages a system to collect suggestions, complaints, congratulations and claims "SQRF" in spanish- See PAZ15-LEG4, page 4, point 2.7

Further See the SQRF system already implemented PAZ15-DNH14: pictures 4 and 5

Last see a communication email promoting the work of the project members.

Communication Example

Buenas tardes.

Compartimos el artículo de la revista Doing Business en la página 18 sobre Aldea Forestal, que circuló con Portafolio (publicación nacional), en el mes de Junio. Esta publicación circuló también en todas las cámaras de comercio alemanas en 140 países y está en internet.

http://www.datasafe.com.co/CICCA/db_84/

Lo interesante, hay personas que comprenden la importancia de nuestro esfuerzo, lo valoran y tienen interés de seguir apoyándonos.

Estamos atentos a la programación de la visita

Status: Open

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 10

Reference : 3.2 Local Stakeholder Template, page 1,

Category: CAR (changed to OBS, July 9, 2015)

	Invitation tracking table	
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Local stakeholder Consultation		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Names of invited people are not listed in this table (each individual name needs to be listed here). Neither local NGO nor DNV was invited (category C and D). Is the Gold Standard Regional Manager of the Americas informed about the project (not visible here, only GS Secretariat was contacted)?		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Invitation was submitted to GS on the 04/21/2015.-representing or to inform about the event to the Gold Standard Regional Manager of the Americas. Further we receive a GS notification that the Public review process will begin next week. This is also a GS approval method for retroactive consultation. List of invited people-organizations was included in PAZ-LSC2, Annex 4 GS: Question was only answered partially. Why were no NGOs or DNA invited/present at the local meeting? PD: According to GS and the retroactive approach-a round of consultation that involve the most relevant NGOS will be done during Public Review. The project is currently under this phase that . Read extract of email: Dear GS NGO supporters and LUF TAC subcommittee members, We are pleased to inform you that the 6 week review GS 4221 Vichada Climate Reforestation Project (PAZ) has started on June 26 and will end on August 7, 2015. GS: Auditor to check if relevant local NGOs and local NGO supporters were included in the public review process email list and contacted directly and follow up with them if they have any comments to the project as in the public review process only very limited data is presented. PD: This is a Gold Standard requirement, not a process/ initiative of the project CU: All relevant local stakeholders were provided with sufficient information and invited for the public consultation. The limited formal response and interest is not related with the invitation process in itself but to the lack of interest and identification by the locals with the forestry issue in the Vichada region. Relevant stakeholders related to local communities, regional forest initiatives and NGOs were represented in the LSC process.		
Status: Closed (15-08-2015)		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 04	Reference : 3.2 Local Stakeholder Soncultation, page 2, Participants list	Category: OBS
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Stakeholder Consultation		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Project area is 10'000 ha, applicable planting area 3276 ha. Why were only 5 people present in the local Stakeholder Consultation Meeting? Auditor to check relevance of the number and variety of stakeholder participants.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: "The following document provides the results of the Local Stakeholder Consultation (LSC) done for the project as a requirement to complete the GS certification process. Since the project is using the retroactive approach: the project is combining some results that were obtained during the blind matrix (May 2015) , with other previous meetings related with stakeholder consultation. Using this approach the project pretends to fulfill possible gaps originated due to this transition ,as " Retroactive		

Project (PAZ15-LSC2, point 1)”

GS: Auditor to check relevance of the number and variety of stakeholder participants.

CU: All relevant local stakeholders were provided with sufficient information and invited for the public consultation.

The limited formal response and interest is not related with the invitation process in itself but to the lack of interest and identification by the locals with the forestry issue in the Vichada region.

Relevant stakeholders related to local communities, regional forest initiatives and NGOs were represented in the LSC process.

Status: Closed 15.08.2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 05	Reference : 3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation, page 2, Description of other consultation methods used	Category: OBS
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Stakeholder Consultation		
Description of non-conformity: Many stakeholders in the project region may not have internet access. Provide additional feedback opportunity than just online comments. Ideally this option should also provide the possibility to give anonymous feedback (which by phone is rather difficult).		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: In the regional office, there is also a book to leave comments and mail box for this purpose. Responsible contact: Luisa Azabache Include above answer (book statement) in Local Stakeholder Consultation table on page 2: Description of other consultation methods used. Book checked with all comments and further actions taken for the purpose of collect visitors and stakeholders perception. Companies are always represented in the local meetings with the community and national/regional forest forums.		
Status: Closed 15.08.2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 14	Reference : 3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation page 6	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation / N/A	
Description of indicator: Stakeholder Consultation		
Description of non-conformity: 11. Access to investment should be filled in in relevance to the local population. Does the project provide them access to investment for example through microfinance projects provided by the project or funding partners? Please adapt and provide new score. Entire table: All improvements by the project are rather described in general. No specific facts are given for improvements. Auditor to check all categories where improvement (score +1) is given.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Complementary clarification for Access to investment was given See table in the template. Further actions were taken to give a new score to this section GS: Checked, no further comments. Auditor to check all categories where improvement (score +1) is given. CU: I categories scored +1 are actually being fortresses of the project and can be considered as representative of the overall status of social, environmental and economic development generated regionally.		
Status: Closed 15.08.2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 15	Reference : 3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation, page 8, Blind exercise and relevant supporting document	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation / N/A	
Description of indicator: Stakeholder Consultation, Blind exercise		
Description of non-conformity:		

GS: Was the Blind exercise really conducted in the correct form? It is doubtful that from the experience of the participated people they would state a mitigation measure like "The project follows the WHO and GS-FSC policy" on item 16. Auditor to check if participants really provided their own scores and reasoning/mitigation measures thereof for entire blind exercise.

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:

PD: Wording was changed to:

Provide protection to employees and also reduce the amount needed. Avoid dangerous substances

GS: In the supporting document, page 8, Blind Matrix Results and following table: 8 responses are visible in graphic and table, but only 5 filled out forms are available in the end of this document which is in line with the 5 participants of the LSC. Where are the additional 3 votes coming from?

PD: Some stakeholders used the digital document. All documents, printed and digital versions were added at the end for the analysis.

GS: How were the negative scores provided by some stakeholders rated in the final score for the blind exercise results?

PD: ponderation was always done. The value with the highest percentage was taken:

- A. Improve air quality (+1) with 87,50%
- B. Water (neutral) with 62.50%
- C. Improve soil (neutral) 62.50%
- D. Pesticides (neutral) 87,50%
- E. Biodiversity (+1) with 62.50%

See page 8 (PAZ15-LSC2)

GS: In the final blind exercise results only positive or neutral scores are visible in the template though stakeholder provided negative ratings (e.g. water quality).

PD: Following the GS Guidelines a ponderation was done to obtain the final score.

GS: Consolidated form (Blind Exercise and Project Owner Exercise) does not reflect outcomes by the Blind Exercise. E.g a rating of 0 in Blind and +1 by Project Owner results in a +1 in total, neglecting neutral or even negative scoring in the Blind exercise.

PD: Answer of the project owner and stakeholders were combined and the highest percentage was used. For topics A, D, E opinion is the same opinion. For topic B, C the project change to (+1) with the highest percentage. None (-1) were score in average; neither LSC nor project owner.

- A. Improve air quality (+1) with 93,75%
- B. Water (+1) with 65,25%
- C. Improve soil (+1) 68.75%
- D. Pesticides (neutral) 93,75%
- E. Biodiversity (+1) with 81.25%

See page 12 (PAZ15-LSC2)

Clarifications added to template LSC, page 9, Main differences

GS: Auditor to review if weighted averaging across project owner and stakeholders is in line with GS requirements. There is a considerable risk that owner's rating overrules stakeholder ratings, or that individual negative ratings are not considered / mitigated adequately.

PD: Non specific procedure for rating (weighted averaging) is stated in the LSC Guideline- The project developer use the general conservative approach attitude og GS to provide the most accurate results

CU: Scores presented to the Blind Matrix are actually representing the strengths and weaknesses of the project and shall be considered as an overall social perception of the project.

Given the lack of interest and knowledge of local community, despite local Association for forest development (Gremio Forestal Vichada), a big difficulty is felt in to gather structured responses from locals regarding carbon or forest projects.

Status: Closed 15-08-2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 16	Reference : 3.4 Sustainability Monitoring Plan	Category: CAR(changed to OBS, July 9, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Sustainability Monitoring Plan		
Description of non-conformity: Template 3.4 was not provided for review.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: <p>PD: Yes, the template was provided and downloaded of the GS webpage as: 3.5- Template-Sustainable Monitoring Plan See now new document: 3.4-PAZ15 Template-Sustainable Monitoring Plan.</p> <p>GS: Template 3.4 was not provided for review round 1 (check filled in templates) but was provided now. Risk 25 b, 31a, 38 d are considered relevant but not rated in the do no harm template. Please rate and if medium to high include in SMP. All were rated as low</p> <p>GS: 25 b is still not rated in the template! Please rate.</p> <p>GS: Also SMP is not complete. Check indicators identified by the Sustainable Development Assessment in the chapter '3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation' rated as positive (+1) or negative (-1) and include in SMP. Several are missing. PD: All positive (+1) topics were now included to the SFM . No negative (-1) were identified</p> <p>GS: Also check if the following is present: mitigation measure identified by the Sustainable Development Assessment in the chapter '3.2 Local Stakeholder Consultation' that will neutralize the negative indicators. If present please include. PD: No negative indicators or scored with (-1) were determined (consolidated SMA). Further mitigation measurements are being implemented for all topics rated (+1)</p> <p>GS: Auditor to check adequacy of consolidated rating (compare CAR 15) as existing single negative scores are overruled by the consolidated rating approach and are thus not listed in the SMP.</p> <p>PD: Non specific procedure for rating (weighted averaging) is stated in the LSC Guideline- The project developer use the general conservative approach attitude og GS to provide the most accurate results CU: Every measure assigned in the SMP are being implemented both for negative rating and positive ratings. Although this is a retroactive project, given the scale and intensity of the FMP, the SMP is proposing measures that can be considered as reasonable for an initial certification. SMP is well structured and measures are pointed to critical issues and selected representative indicators for following up.</p>		
Status: Closed 15-08-2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 17	Reference : 3.6 Risk Register, Risk of pest and disease attacks	Category: CAR(changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Monocultures		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Monocultures (the project does not plant the three tree species as mixed stands but as monocultures) per se can be considered susceptible to insect or fungus attacks and therefore need to be managed accordingly. Currently, it is known that heart rot diseases (caused by a fungus after incorrect branching) sometimes followed by some secondary pests (e.g. Lecanodiaspis sp) can significantly reduce growth or even lead to mortality of Acacia mangium. Respective measures need to be implemented to reduce this risk. Adapt risk score.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		

PD: See PAZ15.SFM1, page 42 and 43- Control de Maleza y Control Fitosanitario
 The project had already identified possible pests and diseases (See PAZ15.SFM1, page 43, Table N VII-5)

Further preventive and mitigation actions are in place: See PAZ15.SFM1, page 42 and 43- Control de Maleza y Control Fitosanitario

Risk was adapted in template
 This phrase was eliminated of the template “the project does not plant the three tree species as mixed stands but as monocultures”

GS: Checked, auditor to check that monitoring and mitigation activities, as well as planting mix are implemented on-site. Note that the GIS shape files indicate separate planting areas for the different species.

CU: Companies are always prompted for the identification of pests or diseases for the plantations or natural ecosystems.

Measures of fitosanitary control were witnessed together with a specialist that is taking in account new methodologies of plagues control for acacia species.

Preventive and mitigation actions are in place to control weeds and plagues. Experiments with new spacing lengths, species, fertilization, replanting are being implemented in order to reduce risks of losses of increment and plants.

Status: Closed 15-08-2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 18	Reference : 3.6 Risk Register, Exploitation of underground resources	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July7, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Underground resources		
Description of non-conformity:		
GS: Project owner needs to state who owns the underground resources (government?) and prove with respective maps that no valuable resources (e.g. gold, oil, etc.) is present under the project area.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		
PD: It is a private project and land belongs to the project owner. The project has only legal authorization for reforestation/ agroforestry activities (see PAZ15-LEG4). Any other activity is not legally authorized. Further any map regarding the location of the existence of petroleum, gold in Colombia are confidential and cannot/ will not be provided.		
GS: CAR not answered. Project owner to check with government who owns potential underground resources located under the project area and what kind of resources are located under the area as they might provide a substantial risks for project permanence. This is especially true if the project owner does NOT have a legal claim to the underground resources and may thus be overruled. Google search shows several non-confidential, public domain underground resources maps/documents for Columbia.		
PD: To complement first answer, open sources from SIMEC are listed to demonstrate that no minerals, oil, etc. are part of the Vichada department. Therefore, there’s no risk that the applicable planting area will be affected –neither is at risk.		
Mining activities-NON: http://sig.simec.gov.co/UPME MI minas/		
Oil refineries in Vichada department- NON:		
http://www.simec.gov.co/Portals/0/serv_sic/Hidrocarburos/UPME HI Produccion%20de%20Crudo%20y%20Carga%20a%20Refinerias_2013.pdf		
Inside Production and exploitation oil areas-NON: http://sig.simec.gov.co/UPME HI tierras ANH/		
GS: Auditor to check adequacy of documentation.		
CU: No activity regarding underground resources exploitation in the Region was detected. The information that		

the Río Bitá is protected against industrial enterprising also ensures that river sand extraction or mining will not be allowed nearby the areas of the Project. Also the statements of locals do not reveal potential oil/gas or mineral projects to the region.

Status: Closed 15-08-2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 19	Reference : 3.6 Risk Register, Financial means	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Financial means		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Provided sources are only general statements. Please provide project specific financial analysis (including detailed income streams and expenditure) to auditor to prove solid financial setup over the project duration.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Confidential-Information can be provided to auditor upon request GS: Auditor to check project specific financial analysis and assess financial risk. CU: All companies are well financially supported and structured to control social, environmental and operational costs of the FMP and SMP. A long term financial planning is available for the project period and considers appropriate budgets that ensure the feasibility of the implementation of tasks, activities and programmes during the project proposed timeframe.		
Status: Closed 15-08-2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 21	Reference : 4.1 Additionality, page 1	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Additionality		
Description of non-conformity: GS: As evidence for pre-project consideration of emissions reduction certification, the project owner provides a recent email from their own representative in Colombia, who again indicates a “financial analysis” and the founding of a (non-related?) organization as evidence. Project owner is asked to provide the specific original documents (dated before project start) that show consideration of emissions certification for the Vichada Climate Reforestation Project. If such documentation is confidential, publication is not required per GS but access shall be given to the Auditor.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Access will be provided to the auditor upon request GS: Proof for pre-project consideration of emissions reduction certification (by providing respective documents dated before project start) is a precondition for GS retrospective projects (if not provided the project does not qualify as a retrospective project). Provided email does not qualify. Auditor to check existence of respective document. PD: See PAZ15-ADD2-the original official signed letter is provided. Financial document will be presented to the auditor –Site Visit CU: Financial documents reviewed and original letter checked. No Further Comments.		
Status: Closed 20-08-2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 08	Reference : 4.1 Additionality,	Category: OBS
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	page 2	
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: No deforestation		
Description of non-conformity: GS: No deforestation. Please provide kml or kmz file of project region and eligible project areas for auditor to check potential presence of forest prior to project start. In Google Earth mid to high resolution images of project region are available dating back to 1970. On provided Landsat pictures no differentiation is possible due to coarse image quality (low resolution).		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Kml files are provided. See Folder: Supporting Documentation; subfolder: shapefiles PAZ15-Fincas PAZ15-Land use GS: Auditor to check prior forest presence. PD: See also PAZ15-MAP1: the same vegetation was present 30 years ago before planting. Planting area is not located in forest areas. CU: No prior forest presence is found. Gallery forests are considered permanent protection areas and are free from the influence of exotic species or operational activities. Isolated bushed trees are maintained into the plantation areas.		
Status: Closed 15.08.2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 22	Reference : 4.1 A/R CDM Additionality tool, page 10	Category: CAR(changed to OBS, July 9, 2015)
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Planting area		
Description of non-conformity: Existing plantations are visible on satellite pictures located very close but outside the project area (south and south-east to the project area). Clarify and document if these plantations are managed without the income from carbon credits by a different project owner. If yes, please update number of alternative land use scenarios after the barrier test and subsequent additionality analysis.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: The mentioned areas are under evaluation and will be included to the project. GS: According to the current project documentation, these areas are not part of the (retroactive) project and there is no request for new area certification. As per the GS Retroactive Guideline, projects additionality is assessed with regard to the time of project start. If these areas are not part of the current project area, they should be considered separate activities and thus taken into consideration for the barrier and additionality analysis. PD: The mentioned areas are currently being stratified, and will be included during the GS 2015 certification. Areas will be planted on the coming years –same crediting period. Detailed maps will be provided to the auditor. GS: The areas mentioned are outside the currently documented project perimeter and have been planted several years ago (judging from the satellite imagery). The project owner’s statement that these areas will only now or after project registration be incorporated in the project appears uncommon. It is not clear why these areas have not been included in the project document for certification. Auditor to check if all additionality criteria, especially the common practice rules, have been met at time of project start. Auditor to check with GS secretariat if a retrospective project can include new areas after project registration which are not new but were planting started before project registration. It would make sense to include these areas before registration		

or exclude them (but then additionality needs to be checked carefully as these areas would be managed without carbon revenues).

PD: All Fincas/ predios of the project are included to the initial certification to avoid confusion and possible future risks due to non compliance (retroactive approach or additionality)

See PAZ15-MAP2-shapefiles:

Landuse-MU1-13
Landuse-MU14-22
Landuse-MU23-28

Notice that the planting area 2015 was added to the shapefiles, but is not included yet as MU (this will be added during a Performance certification)

Notice also that some areas still under planning were included to the project to avoid confusion. See the farms: Balconcitos, singapur, Sol y Sombra, Matorral, Cejalitos, etc

The Common Practices analysis includes 3 projects with similar characteristics as complement to this section. CU: Project developer has presented all the maps of the sites to be included to the initial certification. Even the farms planned to be planted in the coming years are unfolded by the project. Field visit has confirmed the accuracy of maps and plans delivered for the auditor.

Status: Closed 15.08.2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 23	Reference : 5.1 Applicability, page 1, paragraphs 1 and 2	Category: CAR(changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16 June 2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Satellite images		
Description of non-conformity:		
<p>GS: The small, low-resolution Landsat image does not provide sufficient detail to exclude / identify wetlands and conservation areas. The project region encompasses flooded savannah land (as also mentioned in the management plan PAZ15-SFM1). Seasonally saturated areas are considered wetlands under GS A/R Requirements (section 5.1, page 26, footnote 1) and thus must not be included in the planting area. Provide more detailed map or imagery, ideally with soil/ecosystem classification.</p>		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		
<p>PD: The project region encompasses flooded savannah, however flooded savannah is not applicable for planting. No flooded area was identified in the planting area. See shapefiles PAZ15-Landuse.</p> <p>GS: PAZ15-Landuse shape file shows natural forests along water bodies – presumably in the landuse category “for”, type “protection”). However, there is no designation of flooded area or reference to an official soil/ecosystem map. Auditor to check in the field for evidence of flooding in planted areas.</p> <p>PD: See PAZ15-shapefiles Landuse to see precise stratification GS: The savannahs are very particular concerning to water resources. During the winter season soils cannot afford such substantial quantity of wet and creates several flooded spots that naturally constrains the viability of plants to grow. These areas are sited in the operational maps and are being constantly refined. Seasonal flooded areas by the rivers streams are protected from any operational activities and are monitored to avoid potential natural regeneration of exotic species.</p>		
Status: Closed 15-08-2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 24	Reference : 5.1 Applicability, page 1, paragraph 3	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
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Date found: 16 June 2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation
Description of indicator: Land preparation	
Description of non-conformity: GS: In addition to CAR 23 above, please provide a detailed description, for which areas the statement "Traditional ploughing and mechanical technics can be used mainly for preparing the field before tree planting" is relevant. Designate areas, on which full tillage/ploughing was applied.	
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: This is applicable only in applicable planting area (see PAZ15-SFM1,page 40,point 7.5): "La intervención sobre el suelo se hace dejando distancias mínimas de 30 metros a los bosques naturales, franjas paralelas de vegetación y de 50 metros sobre los nacederos de caños y zonas bajas, de esta manera se dejan libres las rondas de los caños y nacederos y rodales de monte ubicados en sabana abierta. Zonas de conservación no son intervenidas". GS: Ok. Absence of organic soil types to be verified in the field as no soil map is provided. CU: Checked in the field. Ploughing is a practice used only in the areas that will be planted. No organic soils (turves or pitlands) are detected in the production area or plantation plots. Despite the absence of a soil map, many soils samples were taken by the companies, specially to determine fertility.	
Status: Closed 15.08.2015	

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 25	Reference : 5.1 Applicability, page 1, paragraph 4	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16.06.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Baseline assessment		
Description of non-conformity: GS: The cited baseline document does neither quantify nor specify the baseline activity for the project area specifically. Provide specific evidence what activities were performed on the project area and that no increase of biomass is expected under baseline conditions for the project area.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Clarification added to template: The project area is part of 250 million hectares of savanna that are part of South America-Venezuela and Brazil are also part of this tropical savanna (PAZ15-APP1) The barrier analysis in the additionality Assessment (see Template additionality) determined that the only feasible activity will be cattle ranching. Such activity will not increase the biomass in the selected planting area. Further using the kml files (see folder PAZ15-Shapefiles) and with the use of google earth satellites images, it will be possible to see that the project area was always the same. GS: Auditor to verify. CU: The project area is a savannah covered by a poor grassland in general with poor soil, very poor in nutrients and whit high contents of aluminium and iron (classified as oxisoles). Therefore the project area no increase of biomass under baseline conditions.		
Status: Closed 15.08.2015		

Nº FAR / NC: CUC- FAR-08	Reference : 5.2.1 & 5.2.2	Category: FAR
Date found: 15-08-2015	Deadline for correction: 5 years from Closing meeting	
Description of indicator: 1.Conversion factors shall be determined at the level of a Modelling Unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Wood Density (b) Biomass Expansion Factor (c) Root-to-Shoot ratio All factors shall be based on the best available scientific sources		

Conservative Approach

2. When aggregated together, the factors shall lead to a conservative calculation approach. This means that in the consideration and calculation of uncertainties:

(a) the CO₂-Fixation shall not be overestimated, AND the Baseline and Leakage shall not be underestimated.

Description of non-conformity:

CU: Field observations detected a big variety of growth and average densities, showing lower results than those used for the carbon calculation (e.g. plot 38 and 26 in La Aldea Forestal, or 372 and 620 of Inverbosques- La Ilusión). Carbon calculation shall be based in empiric data, existing inventory sample plots, which converge with the observed to the field. Original calculation is based in secondary (bibliography) data that overestimates the growth observed at field level and corresponds to averaged ages (8 years) in values that are above the real average age of plantations (around 4 years). Inverbosques and La Aldea Forestal did not implement permanent sample plots. For a suitable calculation it shall be established their own samples for growth inventory for the species used and in different sites conditions.

PD: Monitoring data is provided see carbon Model (PAZ15-FIX1, Template MRV Data).

Soil sampling will be an option to include, but is not part of the GS requirements. For soil calculation it is only necessary to apply the Soil carbon tool and use the default values provided in the tool.

<http://www.goldstandard.org/resources/afforestation-reforestation-requirements>

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:

CU: The latest calculations of carbon (PAZ15-Fix1-Vichada-Carbon Model CU), reducing the original estimates IN A CONSERVATIVE APROACH (Carbon Model 4) and approach the reality observed in the field.

No permanent sample plots yet implemented in Inverbosques and La Aldea Forestal.

Status: Open

Nº FAR / NC: CUC-FAR-10 (originally CUC-CAR-03)	Reference : 5.4.1 Site preparation	Category: FAR
Date found: 15/08/2015	Deadline for correction: - 5 years from Closing meeting	
Description of indicator: Where existing 'tree' and 'non-tree' biomass of the Baseline is burned for the purpose of land preparation, an additional 10% of the Baseline shall be deducted. This is to account for the non-CO ₂ green-house-gas emissions (N ₂ O and CH ₄) that are released during the burning process.		
Description of non-conformity: CU: There is no additional deduction of 10% due to burning of biomass for the purpose of land preparation, such as detected for all the cases of Fincas La Paz y Aldea Forestal.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: This activity is not a common practice. Only under exceptions it is done. Keeping a conservative approach , a 10% to baseline was included to all MUs. See PAZ-FIX1, values and factors (celd C10) and for each MU ER (celd E10). CU: Audit team indicated that there were indeed no evidences found to assume that this was done. However, in order to get a clear understanding about the scale and intensity of this kind of practices, although these are not common. Therefore regraded as FAR.		
Status: Open (Changed to FAR) 09/12/2015		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 10	Reference : 5.5 Baseline, page 1, paragraphe 1a)	Category: OBS
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Baseline stocks		
Description of non-conformity: GS: The values chosen from source cited apply to savannah land. However, the actual reference used appears to be quite far from the project location (approx. 3 degrees further north). Also, tables 3 and 4 in the study indicate		

higher stocks for Savannah (21t/ha) and for Orinoquia (37 t/ha). Furthermore, Fig 3 in the cited study implies that higher baseline stocks may be present in the project region (not clearly visible due to the low resolution of the image). The area should thus be correctly stratified (i.e. clear designation of previously forested areas and different types of savannah (e.g. partially wooded, non-wooded, seasonally flooded, etc).
The auditor is asked to review the applicability of baseline stocks for the strata (e.g. during field assessment).

Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:

PD: See shape files PAZ15-Land use. The value selected is coming from an area with same characteristics as the eligible planting area. During site visit it will be possible to evidence/ratify the baseline selected.

CU: During the visit there was no evidence of dead wood on the ground and other signs of high stock for the savannah as a baseline. Just a poor grassland dominated the ecosystem as a baseline.

Status: Closed 15.08.2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 26	Reference : 5.6 Leakage, Lit. d)	Category: CAR
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: Prior to report finalisation	
Description of indicator: Leakage.		
Description of non-conformity: GS: The project owner lists cattle ranging as the baseline activity in several statements in the project documentation. As this use was discontinued, the project owner shall account for leakage due to displacement of livestock, or document that no displacement of cattle took place due to the change in land use.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:		
PD: No displacement of cattle was done. Ex owner migrate to the city. See PAZ15-FIX4, Annex 1		
GS: The owner moving to the city does not exclude displacement of cattle. Provide evidence that cattle was not relocated (i.e. was slaughtered at time of sale) or that relocation did not lead to deforestation (e.g. if there is no deforested rangeland within a practicable radius and the existing rangeland has high enough carrying capacity to support the number of cattle removed from the project area).		
PD: Clarification: The activity "cattle ranging" was used for the additionality analysis. In that section, the most relevant activities, such as cattle ranging were taken into account. Notice that this information correspond to Project Region and not Project area, which is a smaller and more specific area. For Leakage analysis- only the project area was taken into account. In this section the baseline will be savannah-unproductive area, meaning that cattle ranging, was not a productive activity, neither a previous activity (PAZ15FIX4-Annex1). Further, the migration of the ex owner to the city shows that the money was not reinvested in a possible regional activity that contributes to direct deforestation(PAZ15-FIX4-Annex1). Last, if any cow-for subsistence purposes (1 every 5,000 hectares) stayed in the area, the carrying capacity of the savannah (non forest) in Vichada department is high enough absorb a "possible relocation" (FEDEGAN: 3.5 cows/ha in a conservative scenario-silvopasture system*). The following practicable polygon was taken into account (google earth) as support of the amount of savannah existing in the area-which has the adequate carrying capacity:		
From La Primavera to Puerto Carreño-following river Meta-200km From Puerto Carreño to Puerto Ayacucho-following Orinoco River-55km From Puerto Ayacucho to Culebra (River Vita limit)-190 km From Culebra to La Primavera- 45 km		
*FEDEGAN-Sustainable Cattle Ranching. Available: http://www.livestockdialogue.org/fileadmin/templates/res_livestock/docs/2014_FA1_Paris/2_TNC-CIPAV.pdf (PAZ15-FIX4, annex 3)		
GS: Please add information in line with above answer to Template 5.6 d) to support "no leakage" claim. Also,		

Auditor is to check if use of “cattle ranging” as the most probable baseline scenario is appropriate if the project area was actually natural savannah land and the surrounding areas are - according to above claims – rather understocked with cattle. This may impact baseline carbon stocks and development.

CU: In the field visit we saw very poor cattle ranging on land of neighbours, with a very low intensity and very few cows per hundreds of hectares

Status: Closed 15-08-2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 11	Reference : 5.7 CO2-Fixation	Category: Obs
Date found: 16.06.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: CO2 Fixation		
Description of non-conformity: GS: The model applied in the calculation sheets (PAZ15-FIX1-Vichada-Carbon Model3.xlsx) contains various elements which are not used for the actual result listed in the GS PD, e.g. “Emissions baseline emission” (e.g. on sheet “MU1”, cell B31). Project owner should consider simplifying the calculation sheets to reduce complexity and improve calculation transparency.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: To be considered during all the process GS: Auditor to review model. CU: The details of the calculation are necessary to understand de model. PD: The carbon model elaborated has a holistic approach; includes all the features and GS requirements to be able to quantify the amount of credits. It provides a link to all supporting documentation (scientific data, monitoring data, etc). It integrates the GS soil carbon tool and provides individual information per MU. We believe it is the only way to provide transparency and integrate all the technical aspects require by the standard. Last it is important to mention that model provides and Model description and also a summary of results to keep it simple to use.		
Status: Open		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 27	Reference : 5.7 CO2-Fixation	Category: FAR (15.08.2015).
Replaced by CU-FAR 09		
Date found: 16.06.2015	Deadline for correction: 5 years from Closing Meeting	
Description of indicator: CO Fixation		
Description of non-conformity: GS: The approach applied in the calculation sheets (PAZ15-FIX1-Vichada-Carbon Model3.xlsx) is heavily based on default parameters and non-local literature. First verification indicated that e.g. MAI for Acacia Mangium was considerably overestimated in model, which has been updated subsequently. As apparently only Acacia Mangium was inventoried, MUs with other species remain unverified (and likely overestimated benefits). Project owner shall review model parameters regarding conservativeness to avoid over-issuance of validated credits. Auditor is asked to carefully review the entire model.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: The Monitoring for all tree species will conclude before Validation phase and all MUs with scientific values based in monitoring data GS: Auditor to review model. PD: To avoid confusion, all MUs of the model are currently based only in scientific data calculation. However the PPM were already established and it can be audit during Site Visit (measuring-sampling). Also during the		

Site Visit phase the monitoring data will be presented to the auditor and after approved it will be included to the model. At the end of this certification the final tCO₂ calculation will be based in monitoring data.

The model is now using field data of the Project Forest Inventory provided for the main trees species planted. See PAZ 15-FIX1, template MRV Data.

A conservative value is used to avoid overestimation at an early stage, since the first plantations were implemented. It is expected that the PPM will guide the project to reconfirm the values ones the plantation achieves a more mature status.

CU: In the field visit confirm that the MAI are overestimated in almost all the situation. The soil are quite poor and the height and diameter are lower than the academic literature. In the visit we saw information from local inventories and measures of some growth plots (more than 40 units), that shows a very lower and realistic MAI of acacia and other species. We couldn't get the information but The representative of Forest Finest promised to recalculate the model with this new and local information. The latest calculations of carbon (PAZ15-Fix1-Vichada-Carbon Model CU), reducing the original estimates (Carbon Model 4) and approach the reality observed in the field

Status: Closed, October 30th 2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-CAR 28	Reference : 5.7 CO ₂ -Fixation	Category: CAR, (changed to OBS, July 3, 2015)
Date found: 16-06-2015	Deadline for correction: / N/A	
Description of indicator: CO ₂ Fixation		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Soil carbon calculation (PAZ15-FIX1-Vichada-Carbon Model3.xlsx – Sheet «Soil Calculator») is done for entire eligible area from year 1 (2006). Should instead be split per MU/planting year.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: The Soil Calculator only provides the amount of tCO that will be generated every-year. Detailed modelling is performed for each MU (see MU ER). The summary calculation for all MUs in sheet MUs Modelling (PAZ15-FIX1) GS: Auditor to review model. CU: The model is well calculated but based in a theoretical information from other countries and ecosystems. Therefore is necessary in the future to get samples in the field . The increment of carbon in the soil is possible to measure in the some inventory plots, by mean an organic matter laboratory analysis, it is not so difficult. PD: The carbon model (PAZ15-FIX1) contains the calculation based in the GS- A/R GS Soil Carbon Tool (See PAZ15-FIX1 spreadsheet Soil calculator) http://www.goldstandard.org/resources/afforestation-reforestation-requirements The summary of the results is provided in PAZ15-FIX1 spreadsheet MUs Modelling – celd AP7 to AP37 Take into account that the GS Soil Carbon Tool provides the values that were used. It is not a GS requirement to use monitoring data, it is only necessary to apply the tool. However this advice will be provided to the project owner.		
Status: Open		

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 12	Reference : 5.6 All documents	Category: Obs
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Spelling and grammatical errors		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Text filled in templates should be checked for spelling and general language errors.		

PD: Will be consider
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure:
PD: Documentation was again reviewed
Status: Closed October 30 th 2015

Nº FAR / NC: GS-OBS 13	Reference : 5.6 All documents	Category: OBS
Date found: 16.6.2015	Deadline for correction: N/A	
Description of indicator: Description of relevance.		
Description of non-conformity: GS: Overall, descriptions and supporting documents (including background information in the management plan) are rather general. The project owner should describe more clearly the relevance for the project and specific impact on the project, e.g. which activities are performed due to a regional impact factor (e.g. conservation, protection, mitigation) or which factors are not relevant for the project.		
Evidence received, and analysis of corrections and corrective actions provided for closure: PD: Specific information, upon request will be provided to the auditor during validation CU: Documents provided to the audit are sufficient to comply with the general requirements of GS and provided a suitable support to the field audit. The project is highly relevant to the reforestación of the sabana that is burnt frequently to get more meadows or grassland. Also the project promote the conservación of the natural forest (palmares, saladillo, bosques de galerias,etc)		
Status: Closed 15.08.2015		